

NINE

I am sickened by the state of race relations at CU.

This community, if you can even call it that, is infected with racism and intolerance. It desperately needs help.

Although I am generally regarded as a hero and a saint, I feel that I need to do even more for social justice at CU. I refuse to stand by and watch while everything falls apart.

So, over the past two weeks, I have used my training in psychology to conduct a research study on how students of different races interact with one another. I hoped that if I submitted my research data to the Office of Diversity and Equity, they would be inspired to make changes to university policies regarding race.

As you will see, I met with success.

I conducted the bulk of my research in the University Memorial Center, both observing and talking to students. Here are some of my notes:

- All of the black and Latino students sit together, and they're noisier than the others.
- All of the Asian students sit together, and they communicate in strange, quiet tongues.
- The white students and the students of color ignore each other.
- I want to bury my face in that Chinese girl's cleavage.
- Why won't anyone talk to me?

During the interview phase of my study, I used my racially ambiguous appearance to infiltrate groups of minorities.

The first thing black people do when they meet me is decide if I'm white or not. If they see me as a fellow person of color, they are immediately friendly. If not, they speak to me in short sentences and grunts and generally regard me with mistrust.

I found that Latino students tend to be less angry and disenfranchised than their black cousins. This might be due to Colorado's large Latino population, or maybe they're simply

more relaxed around me because I sort of look like one of them, despite my best efforts to appear white.

I attempted to speak with the Asian students, but as I neared their tables I received a severe electric shock—apparently they used their advanced Asian technology to set up some sort of invisible force field.

Fascinating.

My final interviews were with white people.

When white people see me wearing my glasses and holding a clipboard, they assume that I'm white, too. But if I'm working at a restaurant cooking or busing tables, they come up to me and start speaking Spanish.

Anyways, when I asked several white people if there is a problem with racism at CU, they all said yes, but when I asked if they had any solutions, they were baffled. All they could come up with were lazy non-answers such as "We just need a more multi-cultural curriculum." Or, "Well, *I'm* not racist!"

That's what I love about white people—they don't even pretend to care. They don't even pretend to pretend.

Just as I had hypothesized, my research showed that CU students are comfortable with members of their own or similar races only, and they fear interactions with other racial groups.

Unless there are some radical policy changes, this horrible discomfort will continue to be an unavoidable daily struggle.

For example, take the awkward tension between a black student and a white student simultaneously approaching a drinking fountain. Should the black student, knowing he is outnumbered, allow the white student the first drink? Is the white student morally obligated to practice affirmative action and let the black student go first?

And what about the awful silence when a black guy and a white girl walk into a room holding hands? Is that fair to anyone, including

the couple?

These sorts of interactions foster racial hatred. Although the “melting pot” is a well-intentioned concept, my research proves that it is impracticable and delusionally optimistic.

Thus, after carefully reviewing my recommendations, the Office of Diversity and Equity has issued the following memo:

To All Students and Faculty:

Beginning this fall, the conference room on the third floor of the UMC will be reserved as a TV lounge and snack bar for people of color only, from 9am to 5pm weekdays.

There will also be separate drinking fountains for people of color. In the meantime, we request that all people of color use the shorter of each pair of drinking fountains.

If you aren't sure if you are a person of color, please use the shorter fountain.

“People of Color Only” bathrooms will be installed over the summer. Until they are completed, we request that all people of color just hold it.

As we move further into the spring semester, similar policies will continue to be implemented.

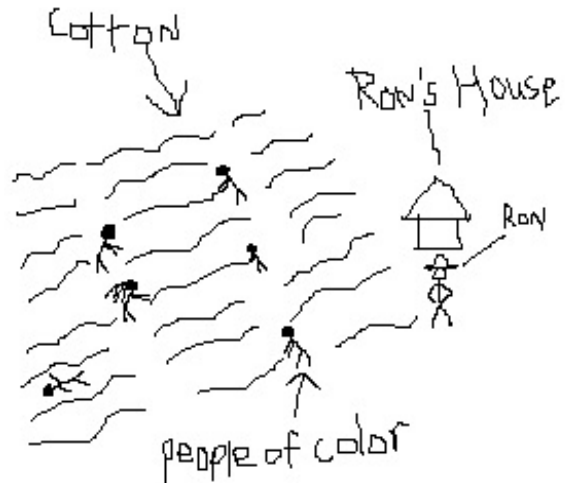
However, these are merely the first steps of a greater process. So deep is our concern for the welfare of students of color that we have devised a long-term plan aimed at permanently eliminating racism from this campus.

The predominately white (and generally racist) atmosphere of CU is clearly detrimental to the

psychological health of students of color. For this reason, in 2009, CU will open up a new campus just for people of color. It will mean the end of racial tension and the beginning of a strong community of students in a place where they will no longer be “minorities.”

The University of Colorado for People of Color at Greeley will be superintended by Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Ron Stump, who said of the new campus, “There will be an emphasis on internships and work study.”

Here is the final plan from the Landscape Design Committee:



Look for frequent updates as this project nears completion, and please come see us if you have any questions or concerns. Our office is located in the Regent Administrative Center, Room 206.

Sincerely,
The Office of Diversity and Equity

THREE IMPORTANT THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Just kidding, CU NEVER exploits black people and make millions of dollars off of them without paying them a cent. Oh yeah, except for football players.

2. I'm launching a clothing line: Yeti Apparel.

3. I am sexually attracted to horses. Actually.

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QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

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